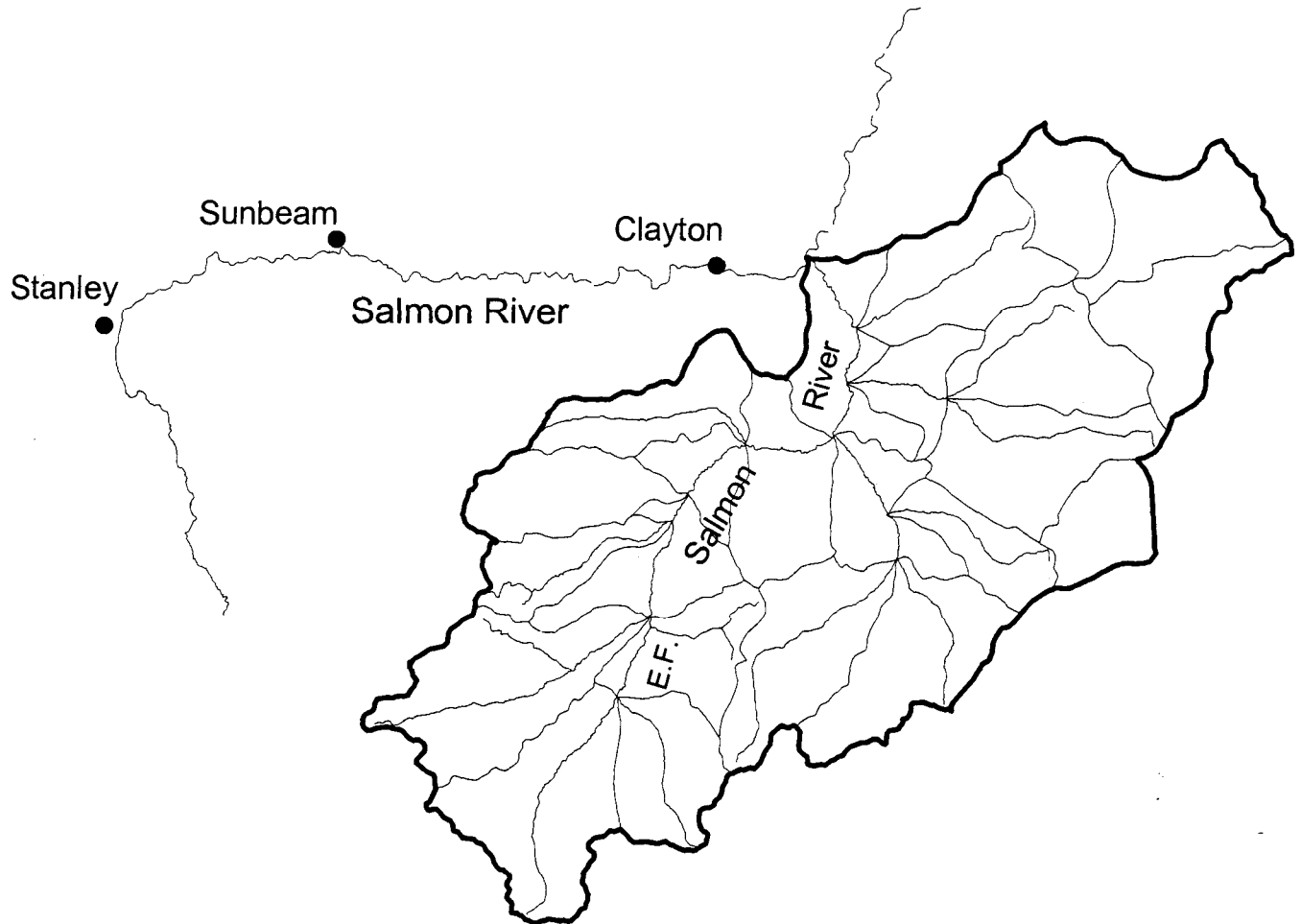


# Salmon River Drainage East Fork



10 0 10 Kilometers



## 15. EAST FORK SALMON RIVER DRAINAGE

### A. Overview

The East Fork Salmon River flows 33 miles from the confluence of the South and West Forks before entering the Salmon River at river mile 343. The drainage area is 540 square miles and includes the White Cloud Peaks to the west and the Boulder Mountains to the south. Water supply and quality in the upper drainage is excellent for fish spawning and rearing. In the lower drainage, the river bisects a zone of volcanic soils, which are highly erosive. Lack of vegetative cover, channelization, diking, woody debris removal, and livestock grazing in the riparian zone result in substantial sediment loads to the river, particularly during spring runoff.

The drainage supports runs of spring and summer chinook salmon and steelhead trout. The East Fork is one of the most important tributaries for salmon spawning and rearing in the upper Salmon River drainage. A trapping facility, constructed at approximately river mile 18 in 1984, collects steelhead as part of the Sawtooth Hatchery operation.

### B. Objectives and Programs

1. Objective: Maintain existing natural spawning populations of salmon and steelhead.

Program: Allow natural production to sustain existing, naturally produced populations. Limit outplanting of hatchery fish, other than direct hatchery releases, to support supplementation research and areas devoid of naturally producing populations of salmon and steelhead.

2. Objective: Maintain and improve fish habitat and water quality.

Program: Encourage land use activities that improve the quality of natural production areas. Participate in allotment management plan review. Work with landowners, the Shoshone-Bannock Tribes, and land management agencies to improve grazing practices, fence riparian areas, and take other actions to reduce erosion and eliminate negative grazing impacts to fishery productivity and survival.

Program: Continue to work cooperatively with willing landowners through the Upper Salmon River Model Watershed Project, in priority areas, to maintain and enhance critical spawning and rearing areas for resident and anadromous fishes.

3. Objective: Improve the quality of resident trout fishing in the mainstem East Fork Salmon.

Program: Maintain restrictive fishing regulations for cutthroat trout in the mainstem river.

4. Objective: Improve anadromous juvenile and adult fish passage in the Salmon River.

Program: Work with landowners to alleviate passage problems due to irrigation diversions. Identify and screen irrigation diversions or repair screens by 2003.

DRAINAGE: East Fork Salmon River					
Water	Miles/acres	Fishery			Management direction
		Type	Species present	Management	
Mainstem	33/	Coldwater Anadromous	Rainbow trout Whitefish  Bull trout Cutthroat trout Steelhead Chinook salmon	Wild  Conservation	Provide fishery for naturally produced trout. Maximize whitefish yield.  Closed to harvest.  Closed to adult harvest.
Tributaries	199/	Coldwater Anadromous	Rainbow trout Whitefish Cutthroat trout  Bull trout Steelhead Chinook salmon	Wild  Conservation	Provide fishery for naturally produced trout. Maximize whitefish yield.  Closed to harvest. Closed to adult harvest.
Jimmy Smith Lake	/62	Coldwater	Rainbow trout	General	Provide fishery supported by natural production.
Herd Lake	/30	Coldwater	Rainbow trout	General	Provide fishery supported by natural production.